



## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

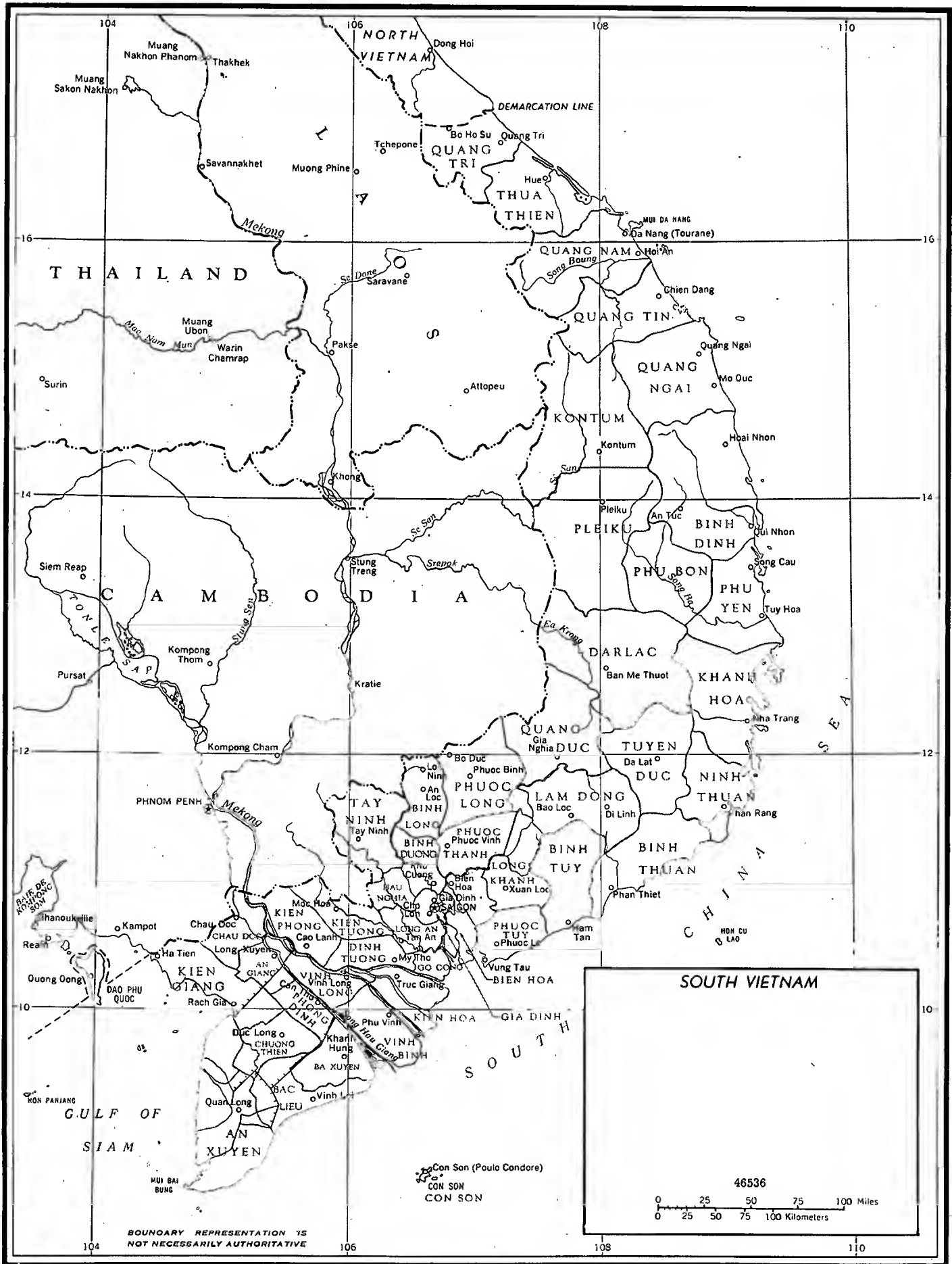


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23 APRIL 1965

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**DAILY BRIEF**  
**23 APRIL 1965****1. Vietnam**

A representative of the National Liberation Front for South Vietnam arrived today in Moscow to set up a permanent mission. This is the first tangible result of last week's meetings in Moscow, and the latest step in the Communist drive to surround the front with an aura of legitimacy. His first act was to issue a statement denouncing President Johnson's proposals for unconditional talks.

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A preliminary scan of photography taken yesterday discloses five additional MIG fighters at Phuc Yen, bringing the total to 41. These planes probably flew in some time in the past two weeks. Two more dummy aircraft also turned up in the photography for a total of 21.

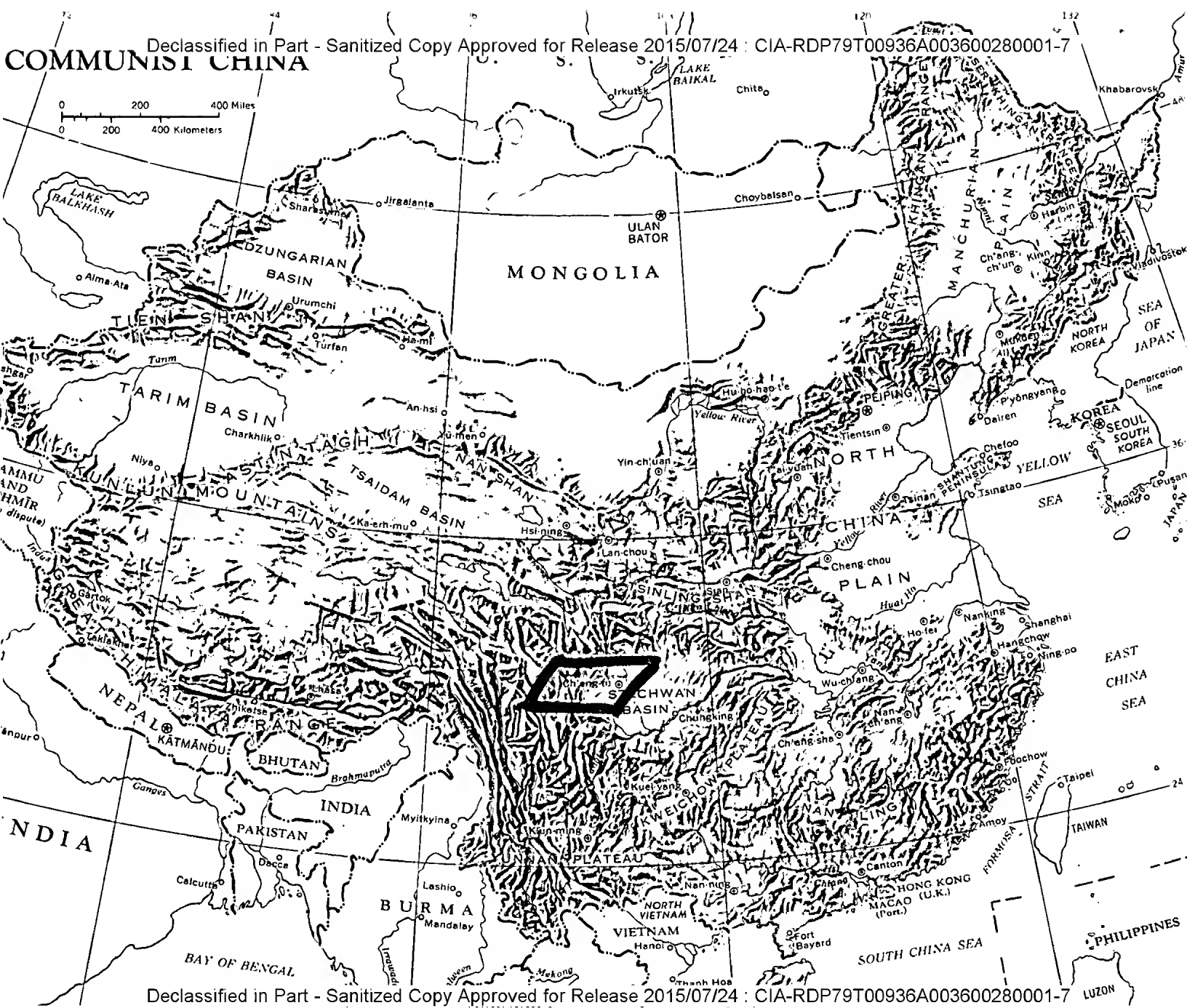
In a talk yesterday with Ambassador Taylor, Premier Quat said he was not satisfied with the aggressiveness of his army. Among the measures he is considering to overcome this are a shakeup in the officer corps and the raising of a force of 30,000 Nung tribesmen, who had a reputation as good combat soldiers under the French. Quat did not mention foreign troops.

Ground action in the Viet An area south of Danang (See map.) has died down after government forces disengaged yesterday. The press reports that the Viet Cong positions were attacked from the air today, but we have no word on the effect. Elsewhere the lull in the fighting continues.

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Declassified in Part  
**COMMUNIST CHINA**



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2. Communist China

Production has apparently started at two new aircraft plants at Chengtu. (See map.) If all goes well, the first fighters--probably advanced model MIG-19s or MIG-21s--will roll off the production line later this year. They are badly needed to bolster China's aging fighter force.

3. Communist China

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4. USSR

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5. Indonesia

The Japanese representative to the Bandung anniversary celebration has proposed to Sukarno and the Tunku that they meet at an early date in Tokyo. Both have agreed, but details remain to be worked out. There is little prospect that meaningful progress toward a solution of the Malaysian problem would come out of such a meeting.

Now that the Bandung festivities are near an end, the Indonesians can be expected to renew pressures on the US and step up their fight against Malaysia.

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## 6. Congo

Relations between President Kasavubu and Premier Tshombé are about to enter a new and difficult phase. Each suspects that the other is out to grab power, and these suspicions have been assiduously fed by assorted politicians in Leopoldville.

Tshombé almost certainly has his eye on eventually gaining the presidency, which will be the real locus of power under the new constitution. Kasavubu may seek to forestall this by dismissing the Tshombé government right after the elections. These are due to end some time next month.

Tshombé has indicated that he would not take such a maneuver lying down. He is already moving a few of his mercenaries and a force of loyal Katangan gendarmes into Leopoldville on the pretext of keeping order during the elections.

The two may still find a way to compromise their differences since the alternative seems almost surely political chaos.

## 7. Laos

The government has worked out a compromise with the rightist military rebels holding out near Pak Sane. Details are fuzzy, but it appears the mutineers will be reassigned and go unpunished. The danger of fighting is probably over, but the US Embassy reports the affair has sharpened old antagonisms among Laotian generals.

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